

1-12-1825

Letter to William Sparrow

Philander Chase

Follow this and additional works at: https://digital.kenyon.edu/chase_letters

Recommended Citation

Chase, Philander, "Letter to William Sparrow" (1825). *Philander Chase Letters*. 510.
https://digital.kenyon.edu/chase_letters/510

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Archives at Digital Kenyon: Research, Scholarship, and Creative Exchange. It has been accepted for inclusion in Philander Chase Letters by an authorized administrator of Digital Kenyon: Research, Scholarship, and Creative Exchange. For more information, please contact noltj@kenyon.edu.

Very dear M^r Sparrow

K. 06.250112
Worthington Jan. 12th 1825

My heart is so full and of such variety of emotions at this moment that I can hardly frame to think, much less to put on paper a train of words and facts worthy of what I wish to be the subject of this letter, in answer to yours of the 24th ult.^o. If I were to tell you the exact circumstances under which your letter came and was read yesterday it would account for this perplexity in a manner that perhaps nothing else could equal. But I have not room to do this. a short sketch must serve.

I was overwhelmed with trouble and yet had greatest reasons for joy and thankfulness. What caused the former was. the conduct of M^r Hunter (whom you saw and examined at Phillicathe) and that of my son George who as I told you had come on with us from the east to get rid of the habits of evil company and inebriety. The Letter was produced by the reception of a large parcel of letters from England and at the same time that of your excellent letter. joined with frequent application of students to enter our contemplated Seminary, and the brilliant prospects before us on that score &c.

Now to be a little particular on each of these sources both of trouble and pleasure.

M^r Hunter had lived with us in great peace. Before the books come from Eng^d or the Library had arrived from Cincinnati he was engaged in reading the Bible and in giving an account of the several books thereof. Since the rich presents from our friends across the water have come to hand he has (with my son George) spent much in opening, arranging, and cataloguing - besides his hours devoted to reading. I was much pleased to see him.

thus engaged and I hoped contented. The daily expectation of some Students
(from St. Clairsville 2, from Cross Creek 1, from Steubenville 2,
from Canfield & Boardman one or two and from Rome 1) made
me very desirous that he should ~~continue~~ and be their teacher
till you could arrive and we could make him either a perma-
nent teacher of the incipient classes or let him go on to his
studies for Orders. Thus things were as we. (Wm Chase myself &
sister in law all) thought going on in peace. When as I was tying
on my leggins to go to Delaware to hold divine service Mr Hun-
ter came into my study and observed that he must leave the fam-
ily and the house for he had some time ago and repeatedly
been insulted in it!!! - Nothing can exceed the astonishment that
this occasioned it came upon us like a clap of thunder yet it
was more astounding for of that we can assign a cause. But of this
could give no account for if ever a friend had been treated with
kindness unallayed with the least tincture of unpleasant thought
it was Mr Hunter. We solemnly assured him that nothing had
ever crossed our mind of evil towards him much less had we ever
intended a word to injure his feelings. He seemed satisfied and
I went on my way to fulfill my appointment at Delaware to
attend on the evenings of Friday and on Sat. for the Ordinances of
Confession and the Lord's Supper on Sunday -

On Monday I returned and found that Mr Hunter had suffered his
jealous and unfounded suspicions to break out afresh; had accused
my family and especially Mr Chase of intention to wound his
feelings and after several declarations that he was satisfied and
again relapsing into fits of jealous insanity he had betook

himself to Col. Helborn's Tavern. On Tuesday morning that
subsequent to my return I sent you Mr. Ripley and Judge Buttes
and Mr. C. Piny also happened in. To them I related what had
occurred and while we were conversing in came your letter and
therefrom Eng^d. Judge then the mixture of pain and pleasure which
I must have had. On the one hand a young man who had been treat-
ed with the utmost kindness had taken it into his head to sus-
pect me of ill treatment at my own table and of aiming to injure
his feelings in such a manner as to force him to leave my
family. The consequences of such a report to the detriment of our
infant school were foreseen in such a light as to occasion a pang
which I cannot describe. Under this I think I should merely
have sunk but for your kind letter and the healing balm from
the grace of God on the good news from Eng^d. Our Subscription
now amounts to 5000 £ Sterling - exclusive of books, printing
Press, Types, Communion plate, and Philosophical Apparatus. This
list is sent out to us on your account from Lady Pope to furnish
our College for the teaching of the Natural Sciences. O that you
were here to comfort my heart, wounded beyond expression by
Hunters conduct. If you do not come immediately which of all
things I most desire you must not lose a moment after your
Levon expires for me to spend in painful expectation. O that
you had come on with me from Chellicothe - Wait on soon
Mrs Chase beg to be kindly remembered Most faithfully yours

P. Chase
P.S. The Rev Mr. Johnston of Cincinnati has been so kind as
to pay for me from time to time for postage acc. 5-89 as

appears from his account sent me thro. Mr. Hemond. With
you have the goodness to pay him for one who loves you and
I will refund when you come. Our English friends tell us to
commence well - on a handsome scale and they will help us
by a private subscription especially to let the fund accumulate.
Lord Henryon. will be a Subscriber for life - I have ten thousand
things to show you of the greatest interest - P. C.

Mr. William Spenser.

Ms. A. 11
Jan 12 1225